

Applicant : Alan Phillips
Serial No. : 10/626,842
Filed : July 23, 2003
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Attorney Docket No. P-US-JK-01496

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REMARKS

Claims 1-16 and 54-70 are pending, with claims 1, 9, 16, 59, 65, 71, and 72 being independent. Claims 1, 7, 9, 12, 14, 57, and 58 have been amended, claims 71 and 72 have been added, and claims 6, 13, and 17-53 have been cancelled without prejudice. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration in light of these amendments and the following remarks.

No New Issues

Applicants respectfully request entry of this amendment because no new issues are presented for consideration.

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the features of previously dependent claim 6, which has been cancelled. Claims 7 and 57, which previously depended from claim 6, have been amended to depend from claim 1.

Claim 9 has been amended to incorporate the features of previously dependent claim 13, which has been cancelled. Claims 14 and 58, which previously depended from claim 13, have been amended to depend from claim 1.

Claim 12 has been amended to add the word "shank," which was inadvertently deleted in the previously filed amendment.

New claims 71 and 72 are previously presented claims 8 and 15, respectively, rewritten into independent form.

Allowable Subject Matter / Comments on Reasons for Allowance

Applicants acknowledge the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 3, 6-8, 11, 13-16, 54, 55, and 57-70. The amendment makes all pending claims allowable.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the features of previously dependent claim 6, which was indicated to be allowable. Therefore, claim 1, and its dependent claims, are allowable.

Independent claim 9 has been amended to incorporate the features of previously dependent claim 13, which was indicated to be allowable. Therefore, claim 9, and its dependent claims, are allowable.

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Independent claims 16, 59, and 65, and their dependent claims, have been indicated to be allowable.

Independent claims 71 and 72 are previously presented claims 8 and 15, respectively, which were indicated to be allowable, rewritten into independent form.

Regarding the Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance, Applicants respectfully note that there may be additional and/or different reasons that the claims discussed in the Office Action are allowable over the prior art.

Claim Objection

The objection to claim 12 has been obviated by the amendment to that claim.

35 U.S.C. § 102/103 Rejections

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 9, 10, 12, and 56 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as anticipated by, or in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Weinhold (U.S. Pat. App. Pub. No. 2001/0043841). In order to expedite prosecution, the claims have been amended to include subject matter indicated as allowable in the Office Action. Applicants reserve the right to traverse this rejection in further prosecution of this or a related applications.

Conclusion

Applicants do not acquiesce to the characterizations of the art. For brevity and to advance prosecution, however, Applicants have not addressed all characterizations of the art, but reserve the right to do so in further prosecution of this or a related application.

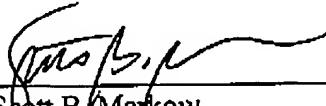
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No fees are believed to be due. Please apply any other charges or credits to deposit account 02-2548.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 7/12/2006



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